

Message Text

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65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9937

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGSC PINT, ELAB, PFOR, PORG, SHUM, PE

SUBJECT: GOP COMPLETES RELEASE OF SIX LABOR DETAINEES

REF: STAT A-1277, LIMA A-59, LIMA 3883

1. THE INTERIOR MINISTRY INFORMED PRESS APRIL 27 THAT UNION LAWYERS RICARDO DIAZ CHAVEZ AND JOSE ONA MEONO (SOMETIMES WRITTEN MICONO), ALONG WITH MINE UNION LEADER HERNAN CUENTAS QVFRDM SPCC CUAJONE PROJECT), HAVE BEEN RELEASED FROM PRISON. THEIR RELEASE FOLLOWS THAT OF OTHER LABOR LAWYERS AND UNION LEADER VICTOR CUADROS (SEE LIMA 3883). GOP HAS NOT COMMENTED ON CASE BEYOND CONFIRMATION OF FACT THAT THE MEN ARE NO LONGER BEING DETAINED. PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF INDIVIDUALS ARE SO FAR LIMITED TO LEDESMA LETTER. LAWYERS ARE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO THEIR ADVISORY TASKS AND SPCC OFFICIALS ANTICIPATE THAT GOP WILL ASK COMPANY TO REHIRE UNION LEADERS CUADROS AND CUENTAS.

2. COMMENT: RELEASE OF SIX "POLITICAL PRISONERS", PROBABLY FOR REASONS DESCRIBED IN LIMA 3883, COMES JUST AS PRESIDENT ORALES BERMUDEZ AND CABINET BEGAN THEIR MUCH BALLYHOOED TRIP TO TRUJILLO AND THE NORTH FOR ANOTHER "DIALOGUE WITH THE PEOPLE". IN SCHEDULED PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PRESIDENT'S APRIL 30 TRUJILLO SPEECH, GOP IS LIKELY TO STRESS INTER ALIA THE IMPORTANCE OF LABOR PEACE IF THIS "YEAR OF PRODUCTION" IS TO PULL PERU OUT

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OF ITS ECONOMIC CRISIS. WITH RELEASE OF PRISONERS, THE LEFT IS

NOW DEPRIVED OF A CAUSE CELEBRE WHICH IT TERMED EVIDENCE OF A
"REPRESSIVE" LABOR POLICY. IMPLICIT IN RELEASE OF THE SIX IS
PROBABLE GOP EXPECTATION THAT THEY REFRAIN FROM FURTHER "AGITATION"
AND PURSUE THE PATH OF "DIALOGUE" ON LABOR PROBLEMS. MORALES
BERMUDEZ HAS PROMISED TRADE UNIONS THAT BOTH HIS DOOR AND THAT OF
LABOR MINISTER GALINDO ARE OPEN TO THEM.

DEAN

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Message Attributes

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